

WRITING ASSESSMENT  
Write your final composition here.

G 22a

In an era when one turns on the television to see that once again, there has been a suicide bombing in Baghdad, it is unsettling to know that many of the men and women being injured could very well be people we live next door to or people we see everyday after school. I do not think there should be a requirement of two years of military service, because I do not believe forcing a person to fight something they do not believe in is right and ~~that~~ many soldiers who come back home sometimes return traumatized.

Do you remember Vietnam? Well a draft was enacted for men to be sent over there to fight an unpopular war. Many men fled out of the country and many just kept on the run, away from authorities. The two years<sup>of</sup> required service is some what like that. Even though there is a need for soldiers, the government should not be able to allow a law for men and women to do a service believed to be based on volunteering. Many people do not believe in war; they believe it to be the wrong way to resolve conflict. It would be pushing them against their will to make them perform the <sup>military</sup> service.

Egregious <sup>results</sup> ~~results~~ could <sup>stem</sup> ~~come~~ from forcing service upon men and women. They could possibly desert the service, or they might even become a hazard for others because of an unwillingness to be there could cause bad attitudes to build up. Serving for your country should be one's own decision, not the government's. As though the images on the media aren't horrific enough, ~~see~~ scenes of bloodied children and women, a car explosion sending shards of metal and glass every where, and land

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## G 22b

mines and events soldiers face during a time of war or conflict. Many military hospitals house injured soldiers, but there are some soldiers who are psychologically affected by the tragic events of war. The memories haunt them forever, even a slight event or object that reminds them of a time can trigger a sudden panic or anxiety within them. The scars of a traumatic memory are hard to live down, so soldiers should be forewarned of the impacts of war. Many soldiers never ~~become~~ revert to their original personality. Do the ends justify the means? The government in a sense has indirectly put a man or a woman to panic everytime ~~as~~ he/she sees the smoke clouds from explosions on the evening news.

Military service has always been on a volunteer basis with the exception of Vietnam. Volunteering to fight for your country requires courage and ~~exhibits~~ a pride in your country. Some men and women are able to give their country that type of dedication, but others, as much as they love their nation, cannot and will not believe in fighting for something they do not believe in. Therefore, I believe the military service decision should be left up to the man or woman, not the government.

### Score Point: 6

This response reflects outstanding proficiency in persuasive writing skills. The writer takes a strong position against requiring all Americans to perform two years of military service. This position is focused on the writer's belief that forced service can result in adverse psychological effects. Key ideas are well developed and clearly illustrated with references to the war in Vietnam and the present conflict in Iraq. Syntactic variety and facility in the use of language are demonstrated (egregious results could stem from forcing service upon men and women; as though the images on the media aren't horrific enough; the scars of a traumatic memory are hard to live down). The response is well organized, and the introduction and conclusion are effective and thoughtful.